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1997/98 ERICSSON CUP - ROUND 5
MARCONI FAIRFIELD VS SOUTH MELBOURNE
Saturday 1 November, 1997 - Marconi Stadium 7pm

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JUDGEMENT NIGHT?

In every season of all sports, comes a defining moment that basically sums up the relative fortunes of the sporting campaign. That one moment that instills a self belief in the players and coach's minds thus believing - "It is possible". Every successful season has that one defining moment being viewed in hindsight as the 'turning point', the difference between mediocrity and glory. In every sense of the word that moment has arrived for Marconi tonight as we take the field against everybody's tip for the title, South Melbourne.

The Lakers 12 months ago were in a similar position to us at the moment. There was a new coach with a rebuilt team and not much was expected of South Melbourne in what was referred to then as a rebuilding stage in the Club's history. Sound familiar? Well the Lakers kicked on last season and were just one game away from a Grand Final appearance after a disappointing start to the year. Now, just 12 months down the track, the fickle nature of Australian Football has positioned Souths as the team to beat and early season results suggest that the tipsters may be vindicated.

This is a crunch game for us, and the players know it. A good result against South Melbourne tonight would instill undeniable confidence to the squad and accordingly reciprocate that feeling throughout the remainder of 1997/98.

After the disastrous start to the season in terms of injury, it seems that slowly but surely the squad is nearing a stage of total availability. Playing the first 4 weeks of the new season minus our international calibre backbone, the results have been encouraging. As the team nears full strength and fitness, the anticipated results will be met with added pressure for success. This expectation weighs heavily upon the players performing on the field and accordingly encouragement from you, the fans is a crucial entity towards attaining this success.

The Lakers defeated us twice last season and in particular, that controversial second round loss at Bob Jane Stadium is remembered as the catalyst for our late season demise leading into the finals. Running 1 & 2 in the all-time results ladder (See page 6), tonight's big match is traditionally one of the major games of any season with entertaining football the product. Tonight should be no exception.

This big round 5 match is proudly presented by Galaxias Greek Radio.

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BUGSY'S VIEW

with Captain: Brad Maloney

Captain of the Marconi Fairfield 1997/98 Ericsson Cup squad, Brad Maloney offers his views on the team's progress throughout the 1997/98 Ericsson Cup season.

Without a shadow of a doubt, tonight's match against South Melbourne is our acid test. The Lakers are coming off another disappointing draw at Bob Jane Stadium and will be fired up to avenge this result against us tonight. So far this season they have picked up their victories away from home, scoring 5 goals to nil against. They are a class outfit and a team which will undoubtedly figure heavily in the end of season games.

In saying this, our start to the season has been encouraging, given the circumstances of our injury dilemmas. The entire squad has pulled together and we are displaying that famous Marconi spirit. Last weeks result away to Gippsland was the perfect example of our fighting qualities. The Falcons are not a team to be underestimated and we knew that we had a real battle on our hands to get the result.

Winning in Morwell has always been an extremely difficult assignment for interstate teams, and despite the narrow scoreline, our victory was full of merit as the Falcons didn't really look like scoring throughout the match. It was controlled and disciplined football, instilling further confidence to us all as we are really beginning to produce what Zoran wants from the team.

Our goal was a rehearsed move which paid off handsomely. Scoring with moves which have been extensively drilled at training is always gratifying. That great feeling known as the work ethic, is what was rewarded and accordingly we are striving to maintain it both at training and on the pitch.

The preparation for the match was also an integral part of the planning, as we arrived in Melbourne on Saturday morning for the Sunday night game. The final ingredient of 100% effort was presented on the park and accordingly, the package came together for us. It was simply a case of Mission Accomplished - another 3 points.

That result is now in the past and in the books and we have concentrated on tonight's big match since last Sunday night. It is a big game for us, and traditionally matches between our two clubs have been highly entertaining affairs. We shall have to be on our fullest attention to keep the galaxy of stars in the Lakers team in check, and in particular Paul Trimmboli, who has been in scintillating form so far this season.

We look forward to this challenge as we measure our progress and season's potential with what many consider to be the yardstick team for the 1997/98 Ericsson Cup.

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ALL TIME ERICSSON CUP LEAGUE LADDER

As of Round 4 of the 1997/98 Ericsson Cup

(Current Teams Only)

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
South Melbourne	559	264	134	161	874	640	926
Marconi Fairfield	559	263	133	163	974	673	922
Adelaide City	558	229	152	177	810	641	839
UTS Olympic	528	210	149	174	753	653	780
Melbourne Knights	365	173	84	108	579	428	603
Sydney United	365	169	96	100	534	422	603
West Adelaide	457	154	94	209	571	699	556
Wollongong City	430	131	116	183	519	648	509
Brisbane Strikers	165	64	33	68	236	237	225
Gippsland Falcons	139	44	40	55	171	221	173
Newcastle Breakers	141	34	41	67	178	245	143
Canberra Cosmos	63	10	16	38	78	138	46
Perth Glory	30	13	5	12	54	49	44
Carlton	4	3	1	0	9	4	10

N.B. This All - time League table includes league matches only (ie: No finals or Cup games). The final aggregate points have been calculated on the current F.I.F.A. three points per win and one point per draw equation. Matches decided on penalty shoot outs in the 1994/95 season are shown as draws.

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No. 7: CHRISTIAN CARE

1. What is your printable nickname: Ice
2. The team you supported as a Child: A.C. Milan
3. How will you celebrate your 19th birthday: A night out in the city with the boys.
4. Which player Australian soccer is the funniest character: Paul 'Dogga' Sounis
5. Preferred code of dressing: Jeans & T-Shirt
6. If you could be an animal, which one would you choose to be: Horse (Stallion?)
7. Which famous person have you been told you look like: The lead singer of 'Savage Garden'
8. Favourite other Sport: Bocce
9. What was the last sporting event you paid to watch: A.C. Milan Vs Bari (Last February)
10. Which Marconi player is the most likely to walk past McDonalds and feel compelled to walk in: Luke 'Colossus' Tomich
11. Which is your favourite away ground: AIS Soccer Fields
12. Which opposing supporters give you the hardest time: UTS Olympic
13. Describe your dream aspiration in soccer: To represent Australia
14. Select your finalists in the 1998 World Cup: Italy & France
15. Who will win the 1998 World Cup: Italy
16. Which Marconi player has the best set of wheels: Brad 'Bugsy' Maloney
17. Which team mate is the most successful with the ladies: Vlado Zoric
18. Describe your version of the perfect spouse: Loyal, honest and understanding of the importance of football to me.
19. Person you would most like to meet: Diego Maradona
20. How would you spend your last \$50.00: Pokies



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THE SIDELINE VIEW

with Fred Legget



SCHWARZY'S BACK!

Former Marconi goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer continues to wow them in England. Mark who now plays with Middlesbrough in the First Division, was unfortunate enough to have suffered a broken leg late last season in a Premier League game against West Ham.

Many believe that Mark's absence from the 'Boro side as a result of that injury was one of the reasons they ended up being relegated from the Premier League. With Mark fully fit again and performing brilliantly in goals, promotion is definitely on the cards for the Teeside club.

His club are also on track for another Coca Cola Cup final appearance at Wembley, and Mark will be hoping that this time they can go one better than last year, when they finished runners up to Leicester City.

DIAL M FOR.....

Marketing Manager Ross Musso accompanied the team to Morwell last week for the game against Gippsland Falcons, and supplied an up to the minute report on our away victory, courtesy of his mobile phone.

Morwell is never the easiest of places to get a result from, and the joy in the Marconi camp was obvious as Ross tried valiantly to relay the result from a noisy Marconi dressing room after the game. Judging by the sound of the celebratory 'singing' in the background, a word of advice for our heroes - stick to football!

IT ONLY GETS BETTER

While it is very early days in this season's Ericsson Cup, it is encouraging from a Marconi point of view to compare our current standing after four rounds with last season's.

This season, only a 93rd minute goal in the opening round against Sydney Olympic has breached our defences, whereas last year at this stage we had conceded 8 goals!

When you consider that neither Mark Babic nor Dominic Longo have appeared in the current campaign that is an excellent result, but not one which has been achieved by sacrificing our attacking reputation. The 5 goals we have managed to score this season are almost on par with the 6 we had netted at the same point last year.

The points table too shows a positive increase, with our 9 points being 4 more than we had managed to accumulate by this time last year.

So let's hope the boys can continue that improvement tonight, in what should be a cracker of a match.

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OOH AH! BILBIJA

with Nick Bilbija

'THE ENFORCER' - Dominic Longo

There was a real and undeniable buzz around the Stallions fans a couple of seasons ago when we learned that Marconi had been instrumental in securing Dominic Longo's services in the National League after he had been playing professionally in Belgium for the previous three years.

Dominic (nicknamed 'Elmer' by fellow team mate Francis Awaritefe) had an immediate impact on our defence upon his arrival in the early stages of the 1995/96 season, and proved to be that immovable rock of our backline.

Born in Hobart, Tasmania on the 23rd of August, 1970, Dominic started playing soccer for Hobart Juventus as a 13 year old and remained there until he was 17. His talent was rewarded with a scholarship to the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra where his ability was first spotted by Les Scheinflug, the then Blacktown City and Young Socceroo coach. Dominic accordingly attained representative status soon after with selection in the Australian Youth team.



He linked with the Newcastle Breakers after this stint at Blacktown before earning a professional playing contract in Belgium 5 years ago. Recently signing a new contract with the Club, Dominic is secured with Marconi until after the 1999/2000 Ericsson Cup. *'I'd like to stay here as long as I can and as long as the Club is happy with me. Ideally Marconi is where I'd like to play out the rest of my career.'* stated Dominic.

Away from football he is currently studying Construction Management at the University of NSW and has a fairly unique hobby among sportsmen. *'I like doing some antique restoration, visiting auctions and purchasing colonial type furniture to restore. I like to get into the garage and start sanding away on a bit of wood.'* enthused Dominic.

Dominic also enjoys rhythm and blues music and nominates 'Friends' & 'Party of Five' as his favourite shows on television. He is also a big fan of the Worlds Number 1 tennis player Pete Sampras because *'He is a great tennis player and hasn't got the big attitude to go with it.'*

As far as this season is concerned, Dominic offers *'We have seen a lot of young players coming through for the Club. Players such as Christian Care, Luke Tomich and Mauro Van Cuylenberg, among many others, display the enormous amount of talent we have got at Marconi. I think a lot of people will be surprised as to how we go this season as in my opinion a top 5 position is definitely within our reach.'*

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ROUND 5 ERICSSON CUP 1997/98
MARCONI FAIRFIELD STALLIONS
VS
SOUTH MELBOURNE LAKERS



STALLIONS SQUAD

1. Ante Covic
2. Michael Cunico
3. Mark Babic
4. Mario Ansaldo
5. Dominic Longo
6. Luke Casserly
7. Christian Care
8. Darren McDonald
9. Mauro Van Cuylenberg
10. Brad Maloney
11. Luke Tomich
12. Manis Lamond
13. Giuseppe Marino
14. Buddy Farah
- 15.
16. Zeljko Babic
17. Francis Awaritefe
18. Jane Talcevisi
19. Brendan Renaud
20. Mike Gibson
21. Paul Souris
- 22.
23. Vlado Zoric

COACH: Zoran Matic

LAKERS SQUAD

1. Michael Petkovic
- 2.
3. Fausto De Amicis
4. Nick Orlic
5. Con Blatsis
6. David Clarkson
7. Steve Panopoulos
8. Vaughan Coveny
9. Paul Trimboli
10. Michael Curcjoja
11. Bill Damianos
12. Con Boutsianis
13. Jason Polak
- 14.
15. Goran Lozanovski
16. Tansel Baser
17. John Anastasiadis
18. Robert Liparoti
19. George Goutzioulis
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.

COACH: Angie Postecoglou

LAST FOUR MEETINGS

11/02/96 - (Rd 19 95/96 Ericsson Cup) AWAY WIN 4 - 1
08/04/96 - (Rd 30 95/96 Ericsson Cup) HOME WIN 3 - 0
30/11/96 - (Rd 08 96/97 Ericsson Cup) HOME LOSS 0 - 1
23/03/97 - (Rd 22 96/97 Ericsson Cup) AWAY LOSS 1 - 3



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1997/98 ERICSSON CUP LADDER

as at 26 October, 1997

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1	CARLTON	4	3	1	0	9	4	10	+5
2	SYDNEY UNITED	4	3	1	0	8	3	10	+5
3	MARCONI F'FIELD	4	3	0	1	5	1	9	+4
4	SOUTH MELBOURNE	4	2	2	0	9	4	8	+5
5	UTS OLYMPIC	4	2	1	1	7	5	7	+2
6	ADELAIDE SHARKS	4	2	0	2	8	7	6	+1
7	PERTH GLORY	4	2	0	2	6	8	6	-2
8	NEWCASTLE	4	1	2	1	6	6	5	0
9	MELB. KNIGHTS	4	1	1	2	5	6	4	-1
10	GIPPSLAND	4	1	1	2	2	5	4	-3
11	ADELAIDE CITY	3	1	0	2	5	6	3	-1
12	BRISBANE STRIKERS	4	1	0	3	2	6	3	-4
13	WOLLONGONG CITY	3	0	1	2	1	3	1	-2
14	CANBERRA COSMOS	4	0	0	4	2	11	0	-9

ERICSSON CUP DETAILS AND RESULTS HOTLINE

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OTHER ROUND 5 MATCHES

FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER, 1997:

Newcastle Breakers Vs Perth Glory at Topper Stadium

SATURDAY 01 NOVEMBER, 1997

Brisbane Strikers Vs Carlton at Suncorp Stadium

Canberra Cosmos Vs Adelaide City at Seiffert Oval

SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER, 1997

Adelaide Sharks Vs Gippsland Falcons at Thebarton Oval

UTS Olympic Vs Wollongong City at Sydney Football Stadium

Melbourne Knights Vs Sydney United at Knights Park

NEXT HOME FIXTURE: Saturday 15 November, 1997

MARCONI FAIRFIELD Vs PERTH GLORY



YOUTH LEAGUE REPORT

With

Alex Robertson (Youth Coach)

Eddie McPherson (Colts Coach)



YOUTH: Our first win of the season was a hard fought affair with our boys showing immense character to hold on for a 2 - 1 victory against the NSW Institute team. Dominic Longo turned out for the Youth team in his first match returning from injury and played strongly for 60 minutes, scoring a crucial goal in his comeback. We play the UTS Olympic Colts team this afternoon and look towards picking up another three competition points against our traditional rival's youngest team.

COLTS: The boys came back down to earth last week after a heavy defeat against the Australian Institute of Sport team. We were playing an extremely talented side that have been together for at least 12 months and accordingly it was a good example to the squad as to the level of competition we are in. It is a learning process for us and although well beaten last week, much will have been learnt from it. We back up with another tough encounter this afternoon at Suncorp Stadium playing the Queensland Academy Of Sport.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

Northern Division

As at 26 October, 1997

		Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	UTS Olympic	3	3	0	0	13	4	9
2	Qld Academy	3	2	1	0	10	1	7
3	Wollongong City	3	2	1	0	8	0	7
4	Newcastle Breakers	3	2	0	1	9	6	6
5	A.C.T. Academy	3	1	2	0	4	3	5
6	A.I.S.	2	1	1	0	10	3	4
7	MARCONI FAIRFIELD	3	1	1	1	4	5	4
8	NSW I.S.	4	1	0	3	7	10	3
9	MARCONI COLTS	3	1	0	2	4	10	3
10	Sydney United	4	0	2	2	6	12	2
11	Sydney United Colts	2	0	0	2	0	9	0
12	UTS Olympic Colts	3	0	0	3	4	16	0



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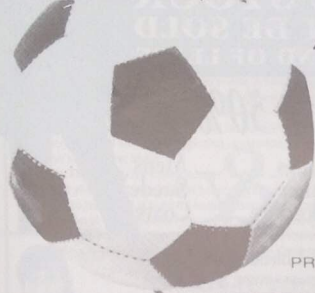
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THE 'M' FILES

with Steven Gattuso



There has been much speculation in the past weeks about a New Zealand team joining the Australian NSL as early as next year in a bid to widen the appeal of the game. This on top of bids from at least one new club from the northern suburbs, and many old ones means either the competition looks set to get bigger or some clubs will be axed. It also poses some other major problems.

To start of with it seems ridiculous to have a team from New Zealand enter the competition. Proximity is not an argument. If it were the case then France, Italy, and Spain could all run joint competitions. We have to maintain some sort of autonomy in our competition. I don't however see why some sort of Australasian club competition similar to the UEFA can not be run. It would benefit Football in this region for sure. In fact I feel it should be done, but not a New Zealand team in the Australian Competition.

With this taken into account, another point would be whether Soccer Australia would allow this proposed team to have any sort of National symbol or any recognition that the team is indeed a New Zealand team??

The record on these matters would suggest not. This being the case, it would only be right that a proposed New Zealand team should not have the national black and white colours, and should not have any association with any national symbol. Therefore, would not be able to use the Kiwi or be called the

All Blacks etc etc...

Drawing a long bow? Perhaps, but

it will be interesting to see the developments over the course of time on this issue.

How will this affect Marconi? Well, put simply, it won't. We have always been one of the best managed Football clubs in Australia, both in terms of finance and on the Football side of things. Turning over a tremendous amount of local talent, coupled with the financial capabilities to buy players where we see fit. Whatever happens with other teams we will be here strong both on and off the field.

The buzz around the Club at present with the building works progressing, indicate that the future is indeed bright and there is a vision to take this proud Club into the 21st century. Taking all on and winning is just what we have been doing since the inception of the National League back in 1977.

A fantastic result for the boys last round away to Gippsland but tonight we face the biggest challenge yet. South Melbourne being one team that many commentators see as the biggest chance of taking the Cup out this season. The supporters have to get behind the team tonight to maintain our unbeaten home record this season. I am in no doubt we can do it and continue our campaign onto the finals.

Until next time...
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SURFIN' STALLIONS

This week on the Internet

The Internet is new bold frontier of communication in this age of technology. Football itself has it's many wide and varied sites and this obviously includes our very own Club. Australian soccer has embraced this medium and accordingly, you read stuff on the 'net that you won't find in any newspaper. The following items are just a small selection of the 700 plus e-mails received by your soccer administration office. If you would like to sample the selections in full, e-mail the soccer office at: clubmarconi@pip.com.au and don't forget to check out our Club's website address. You will find us at: <http://www.pip.com.au/~clubmarconi/> HAPPY SURFING!!

... long distance fanmail from the Glory den.

Without p...ing in MARCONI'S pocket.....If there is another team I like to watch besides the GLORY it would be you guys. I enjoy the attacking football styles of Awaritefe and Sean Babic. You guys have a tough one this weekend against the Lakers. Looking forward to watching the match on T.V. Should be a beauty. Cheers from the West

Jason Roberts
Perth, WA

... Blatter urges Australia to bid for 2010 World Cup.

ADELAIDE, Australia: FIFA secretary general Sepp Blatter encouraged Australia to bid for the 2010 World Cup finals. Australia are one stage from qualifying for next year's finals in France, and Blatter, while inspecting Adelaide's Hindmarsh Stadium, a football venue for the 2000 Olympics, said Australia would be a logical candidate for the World Cup finals.

"Have a look at 2010. You are a young country and have young people here," he said. "It's a real chance and Soccer Australia and all Australia should take this challenge to bid and

ask for the World Cup."

Blatter said hosting the 2000 Olympics would prove Australia could stage a major event and given the style in which it has run two Youth World Cups (1981 and 1993) it would be a frontrunner in 2010 as FIFA looked to take the football showpiece around the world.

"If they can organise the Olympic Games, with more than 10,000 athletes they can do the World Cup with 32 teams and 1,000 athletes," he said.

France hosts next year's World Cup with Japan and South Korea sharing the 2002 finals.

"FIFA will always like to have its major competitions all around the world. That's why we are going with the 2002 World Cup to Asia. Then why not Africa and other continents?" Blatter said.

Taken from the Soccer Features site.
You will find it at:

<http://www3.nando.net/newsroom/sports/oth/1995/oth/soc/feat/soc.html>

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'OLE OLE OLE OLE OLE STALLIONS FOOTBALL'

with The Stallions Supporters Club



We are all very pleased with the Stallions progress so far this year, winning the past three games without conceding a goal. Coupled with last weeks fine win away in Gippsland, the team has got that hungry look about them. Tonight's match will be the Stallions' toughest assignment to date when we face high flyers South Melbourne. At 7.00pm the stadium will be alive and you can do your bit for Marconi with us at the stable

Where is the stable? I am glad you asked! We are positioned at the scoreboard end of the ground, (See our banners that are on display? we may be even waving at you!). At the stable, we believe that on field success can and should be enhanced by the supporters (ie: you people reading this article) - take a look at the Brisbane Strikers (40000 at the Grand Final) and newcomers Perth still attracting large and extremely vocal crowds. Come down to the stable NOW and been seen and heard as the Stallions strive for victory.

To kick it all off for tonight, here is a little chant you may be hearing as the game progresses.

(Originated at Ajax for Johan Cruyff, & sung to the tune of Jesus Christ Superstar)
"..... Superstar!
How many goals have you scored so far."
(Repeated Ad Nauseam)

The stable is pleased to report that our new flags are in the production process and would be integrated game by game and we are receiving healthy patronage on our Internet web site. We encourage you to be in the fun, wear a scarf, team guemsey (which are on sale at merchandising stands around the ground or in the soccer shop in the club, and could be a great Christmas gift) and bring your loudest voice and sing with us: MAR-CO-NI!!!! MAR-CO-NI!!!! or STALLIONS!!!! STALLIONS!!!!

Please remember that we encourage loud support with fun being the object of our existence. This means that no anti-social behaviour will be tolerated and definitely NO FLARES. The Stable is the place to be for a great time on Saturday nights, and we want to keep it this way.

Next week we face the Wollongong City Wolves in Wollongong. We are travelling down to the 'gong and so should you; what a great way to end a weekend. If you have any queries contact our E-Mail or at our web site.

THE MARCONI STALLIONS SUPPORTERS CLUB

E-MAIL:
the_stable@hotmail.com.au
WEBSITE:
<http://www.incaweb.com/marconi>



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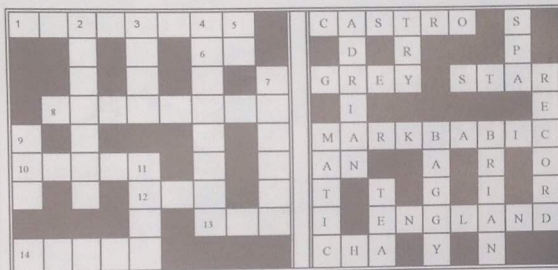
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KID'S KORNER

"Let's Clean The Stable"

LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS



THIS WEEKS CLUES

Across

1. Lakers Captain, Paul _____
6. Eddie Thomsons Initials.
8. Stallions No 13 _____ Marino
10. Orange flavoured Fizzy Drink.
12. Famous Zelic brother _____
13. Losing a game makes you _____
14. Marconi Stadium is our _____

Down

2. Cowboys and _____
3. The coach is the _____
4. Former nickname of Marconi (1980's)
5. Rhymes with Grit.
7. Stallions No 19. Brendan _____
9. Red Card means you are sent _____
11. Stallions goalie _____ Covic



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STALLIONS COACHING CLINICS

The most recent Marconi Coaching Clinics were conducted during the second week of the October school holidays here at the Marconi Stadium soccer complex. These coaching camps have grown in popularity since their recommencement back in April 1996, so much so that during this time we have hosted children from areas as far as the Blue Mountains, Goulbourn, Victoria and last July a contingent from The Philippines attended.

If you want to meet and be coached by members of the Marconi first grade squad, Camp Stallion is the place to be in the next school holidays. Keep an eye out for the application forms around the Club and in the local and soccer newspapers.

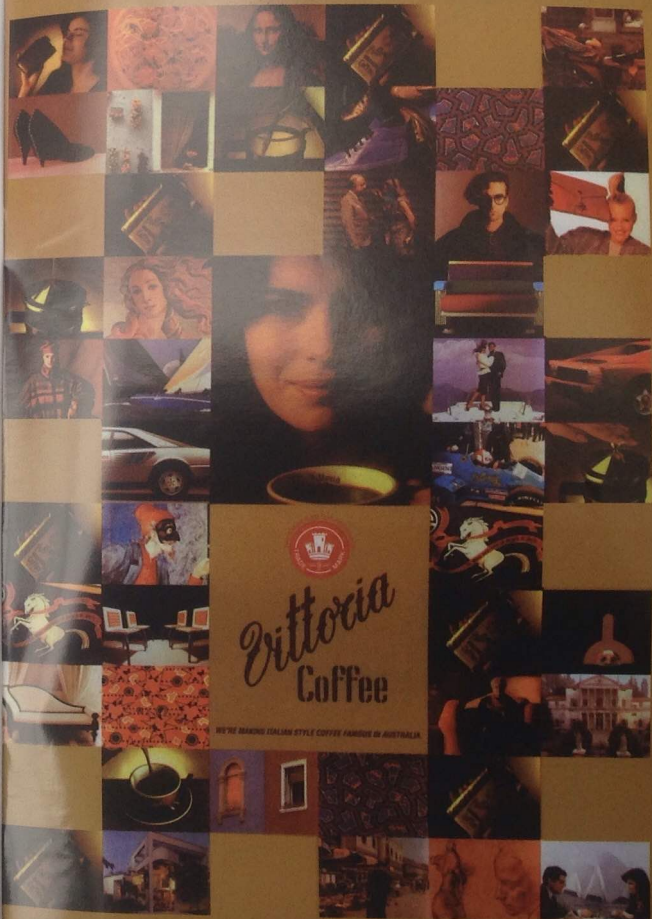
Next clinic scheduled for January 1998.



Vlado Zoric taking a break with future stars at the October Clinic.



The Marconi Stallion gets in on the act with the youngsters.



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